



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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ILLEGAL ALIEN SENTENCED TO 5 YEARS IN FEDERAL PRISON FOR DEATH OF OTHER ALIEN

Death occurred during a failed alien smuggling attempt

PHOENIX – Ramon Emilio Gil-Galindo, 27, of Mexico, was sentenced here yesterday to five years in federal prison to be followed by five years supervised release by U.S. District Judge Earl H. Carroll. Gil-Galindo pleaded guilty on June 1, 2007, to Conspiracy to Transport Illegal Aliens Resulting in Death after a passenger in the truck he was driving was killed during a failed alien smuggling attempt.

On May 10, 2006, a Pinal County Sheriff's Deputy attempted to stop a stolen pickup truck, driven by Gil-Galindo, for speeding. Gil-Galindo stopped the truck, in which he was transporting eight undocumented aliens, but as the officer approached Gil-Galindo sped away and a pursuit ensued. Stop sticks were later deployed and Gil-Galindo attempted to run down the Coolidge Police Officer deploying the stop sticks. The officer fired several shots at the vehicle and one of the bullets hit Ramiro Aragon-Guerrero who was sitting in the front seat.

Aragon-Guerrero was one of the people who guided the aliens into the U.S. that Gil-Galindo was transporting in the truck. The truck got away and was traveling approximately 100 mph. A few minutes later, the truck was located but Gil-Galindo and one passenger escaped. Aragon-Guerrero died as a result of his gun shot injuries. Gil-Galindo was present in the U.S. illegally and had been previously deported on October 27, 2005, through Nogales, Ariz.

The investigation in this case was conducted by the Arizona Department of Public Safety, the Coolidge Police Department, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Pinal County Sheriff's Office and Pinal County Attorney's Office. The prosecution was handled by Lisa Jennis Settel, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Phoenix.

CASE NUMBER: CR-06-605-PHX-EHC
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